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SOURCE Voyenno-Meditsinskiy Zhurnal, No 1, January 1947.EFFECTIVENESS OF NIISI TYPHOID POLYVACCINE

Comment: The following information on the typhoid vaccine of
 NIISI (Scientific Research Testing Institute of Sanitation Red
Army) is taken from three articles in the January 1947 issue of
 the monthly Voyenno-Meditsinskiy Zhurnal.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.7

During World War II, no other infectious disease appeared as persistently
 as typhoid fever. The disease was mainly endemic. It was first observed among
 members of the Red Army in the fall of 1943. The incidence of typhoid fever
 coincided with the period of liberation of Belorussia, Poland, and East Germany
 from the Nazi forces. High incidence of typhoid fever was first noted among
 members of the Red Army rifle regiment which was encamped along the banks of
 the Bystritsa River in November 1944. This was explained by the fact that the
 river was contaminated. That there was no noticeable incidence of typhoid
 fever during the periods of rapid retreat and, later on, during the rapid ad-
 vance of the Red Army, can be explained by the fact that there was little con-
 tact between military personnel on the march and the civilian population.

Because the symptoms of typhoid fever appear rather slowly, prompt identi-
 fication under combat conditions is difficult. Mild forms of typhoid fever, es-
 pecially in patients who have been vaccinated against it, have led to faulty diag-
 nosis; for instance, some patients discharged after having been treated for in-
 fluenza proved to be typhoid carriers. The preventive polyvaccine of NIISI
 (Scientific Research Testing Institute of Sanitation Red Army) apparently
 does not produce complete immunity against typhoid fever, but in the majority
 of cases it makes the clinical course of the infection less severe.(1)

An outbreak of typhoid fever in western Poland and East Germany during the
 winter of 1944 and the spring of 1945 presented an opportunity to test the ef-
 ficiency of the NIISI polyvaccine. In the majority of cases immunity seemed
 to develop toward the end of the second month and to be effective for 10 months

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following vaccination. The incidence of typhoid fever among a group of people who were vaccinated with the NIISI polyvaccine was $15\frac{1}{2}$ times less than among another group of people who were not vaccinated. In this latter group the cases were more severe and the mortality three times as high. The duration of the febrile period and the number of complications were the same in both groups.(2)

Members of the N--- replacement regiment were vaccinated with the NIISI polyvaccine and with trivaccine; as a result immunity developed which lasted for 5 months, namely between May and September 1944.

A comparative study of the reactive capacity and the antigenic and immunogenic properties of the NIISI polyvaccine and of trivaccine led to the following conclusions:

1. The NIISI polyvaccine produces a weaker reaction than trivaccine.
2. Typhoid and paratyphoid B components of the NIISI polyvaccine possess greater antigenic properties than the corresponding components of trivaccine.
3. The typhoid components of both the NIISI polyvaccine and trivaccine possess high immunogenic properties.
4. Low reactive capacity, higher antigenic and immunogenic properties, and convenience in administration (only a single injection is needed) places the NIISI polyvaccine among the best of the known prophylactics for typhoid fever.(3)

SOURCES

1. "Some Peculiarities of Typhoid Fever in N--- Army," Lt Col B. L. Ugryumov, Medical Corps. Voyenno-Meditsinskiy Zhurnal, No 1, January 1947, pp 26-33.
2. "Examination of Efficiency of NIISI Polyvaccine During an Epidemic Outbreak of Typhoid," Colonel S. E. Yulayev, Medical Corps. Voyenno-Meditsinskiy Zhurnal, No 1, January 1947, pp 33-36.
3. "Comparative Appraisal of the NIISI Polyvaccine and Trivaccine," Captain of the Guards S. N. Sorinson, Medical Corps. Voyenno-Meditsinskiy Zhurnal, No 1, January 1947, pp 36-41.

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